



Appl. No. 11/478,749  
Response Dated January 14, 2008  
Reply to Office Action of December 12, 2007

1523721

PATENT  
Attorney Docket: 2884 (203-3592PCTUS)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Bruce Jankowski                      EXAMINER: Gloria R. Weeks  
SERIAL NO.: 10/540,197                      GROUP: Art Unit 3721  
FILED: June 20, 2005                      DATED: January 14, 2008  
FOR: **VACUUM ASSISTED SURGICAL STAPLER**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
**Mail Stop: Amendment**

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed December 12, 2007, wherein the Examiner required restriction between Group 1, Claims 1-5, drawn to a surgical stapling apparatus and resilient band vacuum system, Group II, Claims 6-12, drawn to a surgical stapling apparatus and vacuum chamber system, and Group III, Claims 13-18, drawn to a surgical stapling apparatus and vacuum anvil, Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, Group II, Claims 6-12.

Early and favorable consideration of the claims of the application are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner feel that a telephone or personal interview may facilitate

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 14, 2008.

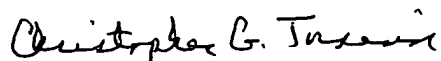
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Christopher G. Trainor  
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resolution of any remaining matters, he is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's attorney  
at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher G. Trainor  
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